

MAR 08 2019

SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO RESTRICT THE DEVELOPMENT
OF ANOTHER DAIRY FARM ON THE CURRENT BIG ISLAND DAIRY SITE
IN OOKALA, HAWAII.

1 WHEREAS, for the last seven years, the Big Island Dairy has
2 been wantonly polluting the land surrounding its dairy farm
3 located in Ookala, Hawaii; and
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5 WHEREAS, residents of Ookala have long complained about
6 releases of manure-laden water from the Big Island Dairy into
7 the nearby gulches that run through or next to the Ookala
8 community; and
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10 WHEREAS, a discharge in May 2018 released more than two
11 million gallons of rain and wastewater during a period of three
12 days; and
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14 WHEREAS, in August 2018, heavy rain from Hurricane Lane
15 caused a wastewater pond at the Dairy to overflow, sending
16 untreated effluent into a nearby gulch; and
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18 WHEREAS, on December 24, 2018, the Big Island Dairy
19 discharged nearly six hundred thousand gallons of wastewater
20 into Kaohaoha Gulch; and
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22 WHEREAS, a lawsuit was filed against the Big Island Dairy
23 alleging violations of the Federal Clean Water Act, and the Big
24 Island Dairy has since reached a legal settlement and must shut
25 down dairy operations on or about April 30, 2019; and
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27 WHEREAS, the land of the former Big Island Dairy is still
28 currently polluted and should remain unused for dairy purposes;
29 now, therefore,
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31 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature
32 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2019, that the
33 Department of Agriculture is urged to disallow any other dairy
34 from operating on the same site as the Big Island Dairy located
35 in Ookala, Hawaii; and



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2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is
3 urged to not issue any environmental permits for the current Big
4 Island Dairy site located in Ookala, Hawaii; and
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6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
7 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of
8 Agriculture and Director of Health.
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OFFERED BY:

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